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INTERPROCESS COMMUNICATION MECHANISM FOR HETEROGENEOUS COMPUTER PROCESSES

2. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of determining comprises: determining that the request includes a document specification which is in a portion of a name space reserved for function requests.

- 3. (Previously Once Amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising: returning to the applet result data produced by execution of the function.
- 4. (Previously Once Amended) The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of returning comprises:

forming a document which includes the data; and sending the document to the applet.

- 5. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 1 wherein the document retrieval protocol is **HTTP**
- (Previously Once Amended) A computer readable medium useful in association with a computer system which include a processor and a memory, the computer readable medium including computer instructions which are configured to cause the computer to serve remote procedure calls from an applet, which executes within an applet viewer which in turn executes in the computer system that is serving said remote procedure calls, by performing the steps of:

receiving from the applet which executes in the same computer system that serves said procedure calls, a request for a document according to a document retrieval protocol implemented on a computer network;

determining that the request specifies a function which is defined within a computer process executing independently of the applet and applet viewer and which includes one or more selected computer instructions, execution of which performs a task which is unrelated to retrieval of any document specified in the request; and

executing the function in the same computer system that is executing said applet and applet viewer to thereby cause execution of the one or more selected computer instructions in response to receipt of the request.

7. (Unchanged) The computer readable medium of Claim 6 wherein the step of determining comprises:

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determining that the request includes a document specification which is in a portion of a name space reserved for function requests.

8. (Previously Once Amended) The computer readable medium of Claim 6 where the computer instructions are further configured to cause the computer to serve remote procedure calls by further performing the step of:

returning to the applet result data produced by execution of the function.

9. (Unchanged) The computer readable medium of Claim 8 wherein the step of returning comprises:

forming a document which includes the result data; and sending the document to the applet.

- 10. (Unchanged) The computer readable medium of Claim 6 wherein the document retrieval protocol is HTTP.
- 11. (Previously Once Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory operatively coupled to the processor; and

a computer process which executes in the processor from the memory and which, when executed, serves remote procedure calls from an applet which executes within an applet viewer which in turn executes in the processor from the memory concurrently and independently from the computer process, wherein the computer process serves remote procedure calls by performing the steps of:

receiving from the applet which executes in the same computer system that serves remote procedure calls, a request for a document according to a document retrieval protocol implemented on a computer network;

determining that the request specifies a function which is defined within the computer process and which includes one or more computer instructions, execution of which performs a task which is unrelated to retrieval of any document specified in the request; and

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executing the function in the same computer system that is executing said applet and applet viewer to thereby cause execution of the one or more computer instructions in response to receipt of the request.

12. (Unchanged) The computer system of Claim 11 wherein the step of determining comprises:

determining that the request includes a document specification which is in a portion of a name space reserved for function requests.

- 13. (Previously Once Amended) The computer system of Claim 11 where the computer process serves remote procedure calls by further performing the step of: returning to the applet_result data produced by execution of the function.
- 14. (Unchanged) The computer system of Claim 13 wherein the step of returning comprises:

forming a document which includes the result data; and sending the document to the applet.

- 15. (Previously Once Amended) The computer system of Claim 11 wherein the document retrieval protocol is HTTP.
- 22. (Previously added) A method for serving remote procedure calls from an applet which executes within an applet viewer which in turn executes in a computer system that is serving said remote procedure calls, the method comprising:

receiving from the applet which executes in the same computer system that serves said remote procedure calls, a request for a document according to a document retrieval protocol implemented on a computer network; determining that the request specifies a Remote Procedure Call which is defined within a computer process executing independently of the applet and applet viewer and which includes one or more computer instructions, execution of which performs a task which is unrelated to retrieval of any document specified in the request; and